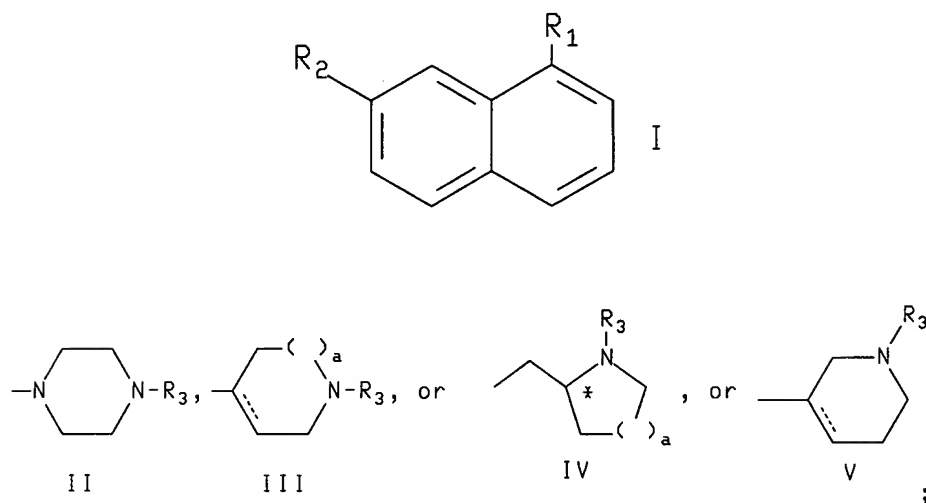


IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the paragraph at Page 1, line 31 to Page 2, line 12 as follows:

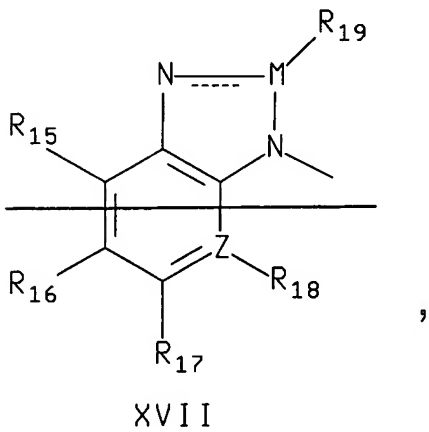
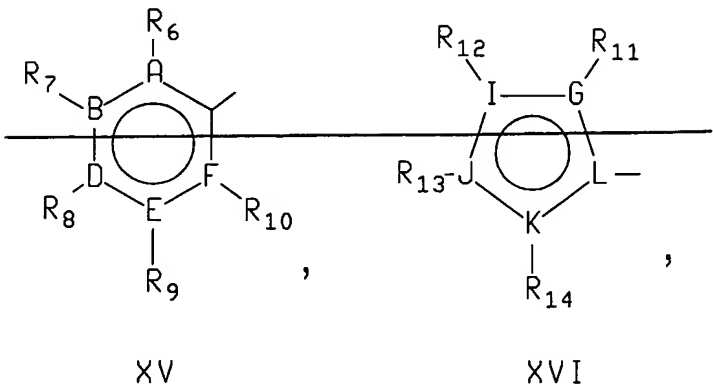
The present invention relates to compounds of the formula

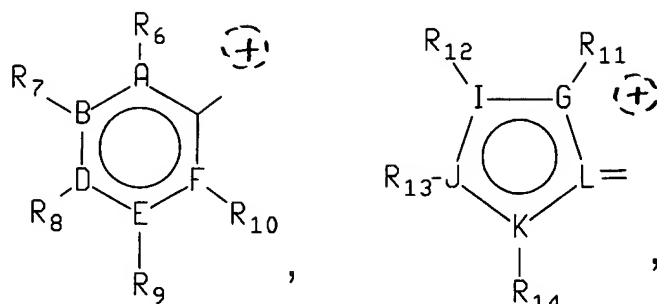


R_2 is $-R_4$, $-O-R_4$, $-O-S(O)_2-R_4$, $-NR_4R_5$, $R_4-(CH_2)_b-NH(C=X)-(CH_2)_c-$,
 $R_4-(CH_2)_b-O(C=O)NH-(CH_2)_c-(C=O)NH-$, $R_4-(C=O)NH-(C=O)NH-$,
 $-(CH_2)_b-NH(C=X)-(CH_2)_c-R_4$, $R_4-(CH_2)_b-O(C=O)-(CH_2)_c-$, $-(CH_2)_b-O(C=O)-(CH_2)_c-R_4$,
 $-NH(C=X)NH-R_4$, $R_4-O(C=O)O-$, $-O(C=O)NH-R_4$, $R_4-O(C=O)NH-$,
 $-(CH_2)_b-(C=O)-(CH_2)_c-R_4$, $-NH-S(O)_2-R_4$, $-C(OH)R_4R_5$, $-CH(OH)-R_4$, $-(C=O)-NR_4R_5$, $-CN$,
 $-NO_2$, substituted C_1 to C_6 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted C_1 to C_6 alkenyl, or substituted
or unsubstituted C_1 to C_6 alkynyl, said substituted moieties substituted with a moiety of the
formulae $-R_4$, $-R_4R_5$, $-O-R_4$, or $-S(O)_d-R_4$;

Amend the paragraph at Page 2, lines 14 to 35 as follows:

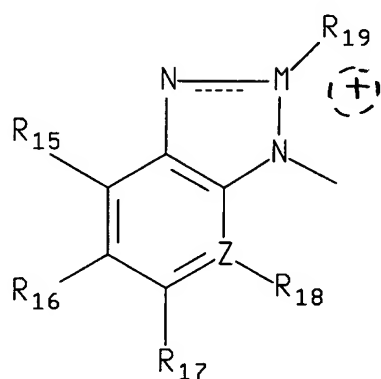
R_4 and R_5 are each independently





XV

XVI



XVII

hydrogen, -CF₃, C₁ to C₆ alkyl, C₁ to C₆ alkylaryl, with the proviso that when R₂ is -R₄ or -OR₄, R₄ is not hydrogen or C₁ to C₆ alkyl;

Amend the paragraph at Page 3, lines 5 to 8 as follows:

R₆, R₇, R₈, R₉, R₁₀, R₁₁, R₁₂, R₁₃, R₁₄, R₁₅, R₁₆, R₁₇, and R₁₈ are each independently H, halogen, -CF₃, -(C=O)R₂₀, -CN, -OR₂₀, -NR₂₀R₂₁, -NR₂₀SO₂R₂₂, -N₂₀CO₂R₂₂, -N=C-N(CH₃)₂, -S(O)₆R₂₀, -SO₂NR₂₀R₂₁, -NO₂, aryl, C₁ to C₆ alkylaryl, -(C=O)OR₂₀, -(C=O)NR₂₀R₂₁, C₁ to C₆ alkyl, C₄ to C₆ alkenyl, and C₄ to C₆ alkynyl;

Amend the paragraph at Page 3, lines 9 to 13 as follows:

R₆ and R₇, R₇ and R₈, R₈ and R₉, R₉ and R₁₀, R₁₁ and R₁₂, R₁₂ and R₁₃, R₁₃ and R₁₄, R₁₅ and R₁₆, R₁₆ and R₁₇, and R₁₇ and R₁₈ may be taken together with the ring atoms to which they are attached to form a five-to-seven-membered alkyl ring, a six-membered aryl ring, a five to seven membered heteroalkyl ring having one heteroatom of N, O, or S, or a five-to six-membered heteroaryl ring having ~~have~~ 1 or 2 heteroatoms of N, O, or S;